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ABSTRACT

Written for librarians and school library media specialists, this book is designed to foster awareness and encourage confidence in serving the needs of children with disabilities. It provides practical guidelines for recognizing and understanding many disabilities, including vision, hearing, and speech impairments; emotional, behavioral, and learning disorders; and disabilities affecting mobility and dexterity. Information about the developmental and informational needs of children and corresponding library responses is provided. Insights and solutions that will help librarians create mainstreamed environments for library users are offered. These include guidelines for selecting and adapting library materials and facilities and minimizing the effects of physical, societal, and environmental barriers in libraries. Separate discussions focus on planning, implementing and evaluating services and assistive technologies. Sources of materials, equipment, technology and other sources of information and assistance are provided, along with contact information. A 20-page list of recommended readings arranged by chapter, a checklist of ways to implement services for children with disabilities, and a description of a successful program are appended. (KRN)

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